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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.	10/586,053	Confirmation No. 2443
Applicant(s)	Friedrich BOECKING	
Filed	July 14, 2006	
TC/A.U.	3752	
Docket No.	R.306611	
Customer No.	02119	

Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: May 9, 2007

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b),  
 AND EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE OF THE CITED PRIOR ART**

Sir:

The undersigned hereby requests that the prior art cited on the attached prior art statement be placed of record in the application file and be considered by the examiner.

This citation of prior art is made under 37 CFR 1.97(b), since it is being filed before the mailing date of the First Office Action.

The relevance of the prior art cited on the attached form PTO/SB/08a is as follows:

**EP 0 218 895 A1**

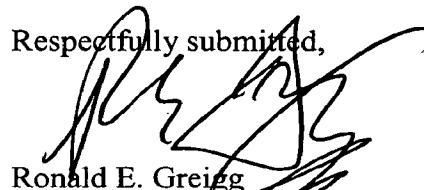
This patent shows a metering valve which includes a piezoelectric cylinder connected via a spring biased needle to a valving element for closing a metering opening. To compensate for slow changes in the length of the piezoelectric control member, there is a damping piston connected axially to the piezoelectric member and being movable in a well formed in the valve housing and defining with the end face of the piston a damping chamber.

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Prior to First Office Action

A tubular membrane surrounds a portion of the damping piston and is attached to the piezoelectric member and to an inner wall of the housing around the opening of the well to define with the piston an annular equalizing space. The damping and equalizing spaces are filled with liquid and communicate with one another via a narrow throttling gap formed between facing walls of the well and of the piston.

Examination of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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**Customer No. 02119**

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Enclosures  
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>				Application Number	10/586,053
(Use as many sheets as necessary)				Filing Date	July 14, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Friedrich BOECKING
				Art Unit	3752
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	R.306611

Examiner Signature	/Ryan Reis/	Date Considered	07/29/2008
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**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office<sup>2</sup> that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

<sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.